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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **KAWARAYA, Masahide, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2813**

Serial No.: **10/530,475**

Examiner: **Deloris BRYANT**

Filed: **April 6, 2005**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4981**

For. **PROCESS FOR FORMING SEMICONDUCTOR  
FILM AND USE OF SEMICONDUCTOR FILM**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 5, 2007

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies:

**XX** That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the European Patent Office mailed December 4, 2006 in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement;

\_\_\_ that no item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket No. **050179**

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**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449

References (6)

Copy of European Search Report mailed December 4, 2006



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. <b>050179</b>	Serial No. <b>10/530,475</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>KAWARAYA, Masahide, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>April 6, 2005</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>2813</b>

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF EP 1 119 068	07-25-2001	EPO	
_____ AG EP 1 213 775	06-12-2002	EPO	
_____ AH 2002-145615	05-22-2002	Japan	Abstract
_____ AI EP 1 207 572	05-22-2002	EPO	
_____ AJ 11-314030	11-16-1999	Japan	Abstract

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	Copy of supplementary European Search Report mailed December 4, 2006 (3 pages).
_____	AL	H. Cachet et al.: "n-Si/SnO <sub>2</sub> junctions based on macroporous silicon for photoconversion," <i>Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells</i> , Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, NL, vol. 46, no. 2, May 1997, pages 101-114.
Examiner		Date Considered